

6 - 5

Fort Pacific: Local Family Center

a. Post Situation and Population

(1) Surrounding Context and Geography. Fort Pacific is a family housing area located on a large island in the Pacific Ocean. It is twenty miles from the military operations and administrative areas served by the resident military population. It is over twenty miles from a major metropolitan center with any extensive recreational activities. Although the areas around Fort Pacific have seen civilian development recently, the fort itself remains isolated, with the closest commercial and service centers at least five miles away by car.

The terrain of Fort Pacific and its surrounding area is very hilly and at times precipitous. The isolation of the post is reinforced by its being largely ringed by steep slopes (see figure 6 - 29). The fort itself is densely developed, with little open space remaining. The vegetation is lushly tropical, and there are many attractive beaches nearby.

(2) Post Mission and Population. Fort Pacific is strictly a family housing area for personnel serving at other posts. It houses 2,600 families in very dense residential accommodations. The total population of the housing area is slightly over 10,000, with 5,000 dependents under nineteen years of age. The military personnel living there are almost entirely enlisted men and NCO's.

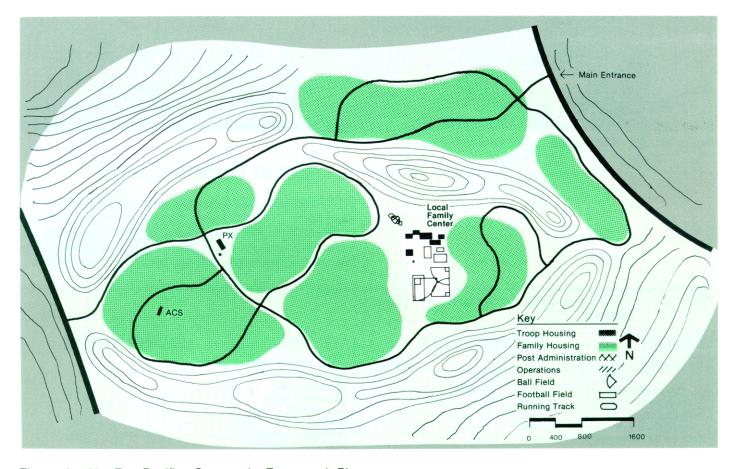


Figure 6 - 29 Fort Pacific: Community Framework Plan

b. Existing Programs and Facilities

Very little exists in the way of community programs and facilities on the post. A small post exchange (including a superette, snack bar and electronic games room) and a small Army Community Services building serve the entire population. There are limited sports fields, outdoor courts and playgrounds dispersed among the housing. Any organized programming is operated by part-time MSA staff who are based at other installations. This consists mostly of team sports activities for the soldiers and dependent youth. Even chapel services are held outside by visiting staff. The full range of family-oriented programs requires development and accommodations.

c. Community Framework

The Community Framework plan (figure 6 - 29) shows the response to this comprehensive need at Fort Pacific. A single CAC complex is located on one of the only remaining open sites available on the installation, a central location which is reasonably accessible from all parts of the housing area. This local family center accommodates all the community functions for the installation, like a main post center. The ACS functions are relocated from their old building to the center, and playing fields are developed nearby. Unfortunately, the post exchange complex remains a separate, isolated function because of existing buildings and space constraints.

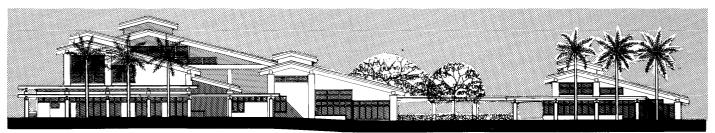


Figure 6 - 33 Fort Pacific: Local Family Center-Elevation

d. Local Family Center

(1) Program. The comprehensive program for this local family center includes spaces for indoor sports activities (including gymnasium, handball/racquetball, and exercise/fitness), outdoor sports (including baseball, football, tennis, basketball and swimming), social activities

Table 6 - 7 Fort Pacific	Local	Family	Center:	Space
Program				

Function-Space	Area (Gross Square Feet)		Function-Space	Area (Gross Square Feet)		
Social Activities		10,690	Outdoor Playing Courts and Fields I Tennis - 3 courts			
Small Group Activities • Active Games • Table Games • Open Multipurpose • Enclosed Multipurpose/Meeting Refreshment	9400 4900 770 1630 2100		I Softball - 1 field I Baseball - 1 field I Little League - 1 field I Football/Soccer - 1 field I Volleyball - 1 court I Basketball - 1 court I Swimming Pool - 25 meter			
Snacks/VendingKitchen/Pantry	790 500		Child Care			6,520
Arts and Crafts		2,000	Primary Indoor Activities		3660	
General Crafts Storage	1640 360		I Infants I Toddlers I Preschoolers I Drop In	580 580 1920 580		
Music		1,190	support	000	2860	
Practice/Listening Rooms Instrument Checkout/Storage	830 360		Office/Reception Special Child Services	380 100	2000	
Drama		1,280	I Staff Lounge I Multi-Use Space	250 1370		
Stage/Dressing/Storage (in Gym)	1280	2,910	I Food Preparation I Storage	260 280		
Library		2,910	I Toilets	220		
Control/Off ice Stacks Reading Meeting/Research/Conference	320 640 910 1040		General Support Administration Offices Control Center/Storage		1170 600	2,990
Physical Fitness		21,780	Maintenance Toilets General Storage		150 730 340	
Multipurpose Gymnasium Handball/Racquetball Exercise & Storage Weights/Fitness	9360 3200 2210 1440		General Storage		<u>Total</u>	49,360
Support Trainer/Lifeguard/ First Aid Lockers Showers Toilets Sauna Laundry Equipment Checkout/Control Outdoor Equipment Storage	5570 960 2200 300 300 250 300 540 720					

(including lounging, snacks, games, table tennis, pool, clubs, meetings and other events), music practice and simple performances (and other events that can be accommodated in a multipurpose gym), branch library, child care (full day, part day and hourly, and offices for post administration, chaplain as well as CAC and MSA program operations. The space program for the Fort Pacific local family center is listed in table 6 - 7.

- (2) Design Solution. The design response to this extensive program is a building complex composed of a series of separate pavilions distributed on the site. The buildings are connected by an organized pattern of sheltered outdoor pathways (see plans, figures 6 30 and 6 32). This is designed to provide the maximum program accommodation for the family center, as economical and flexible as possible, with maximum operation by non-specialist staff. It is based on the following concepts:
- Separate pavilions, with a greater perimeter to provide maximum openness for cooling by natural ventilation.
 Walls are left open as much as possible, except where privacy and security needs override.
- The pattern of separate pavilions, or huts, fits with the traditional local architectural style (see elevation, figure 6 33).
- Maximum use of outdoor circulation paths is appropriate, given the local climate, and is most efficient in use of built space.
- The pavilions are arranged to create an enclosure for a terraced amphitheatre, for outside activities, at the center of the complex.
- Individual pavilions are designed to permit flexible, multiple uses and operation from different control points. For example, the multipurpose gymnasium incorporates a stage for performances and other events. It can be operated either by support staff from the central control

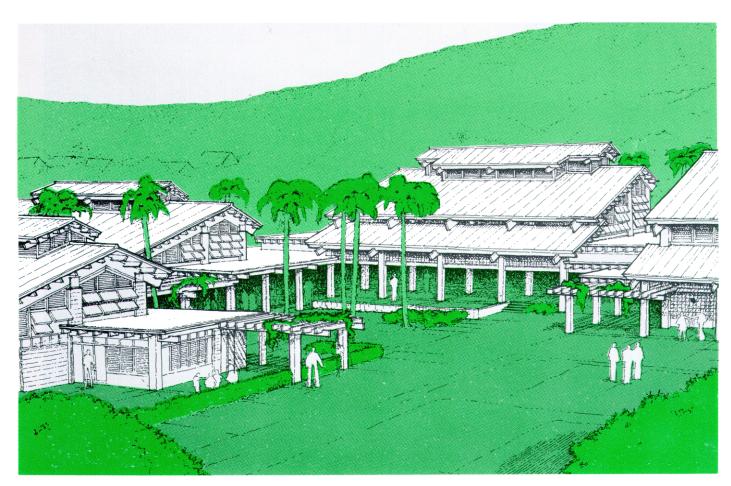


Figure 6 – 31 Fort Pacific: Local Family Center-Perspective

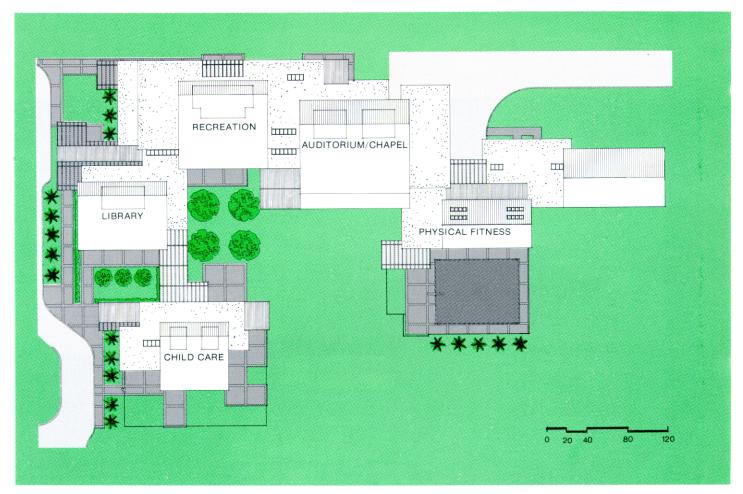


Figure 6-30 Fort Pacific: Local Family Center-Site Plan

Fort Pacific Local Family Center

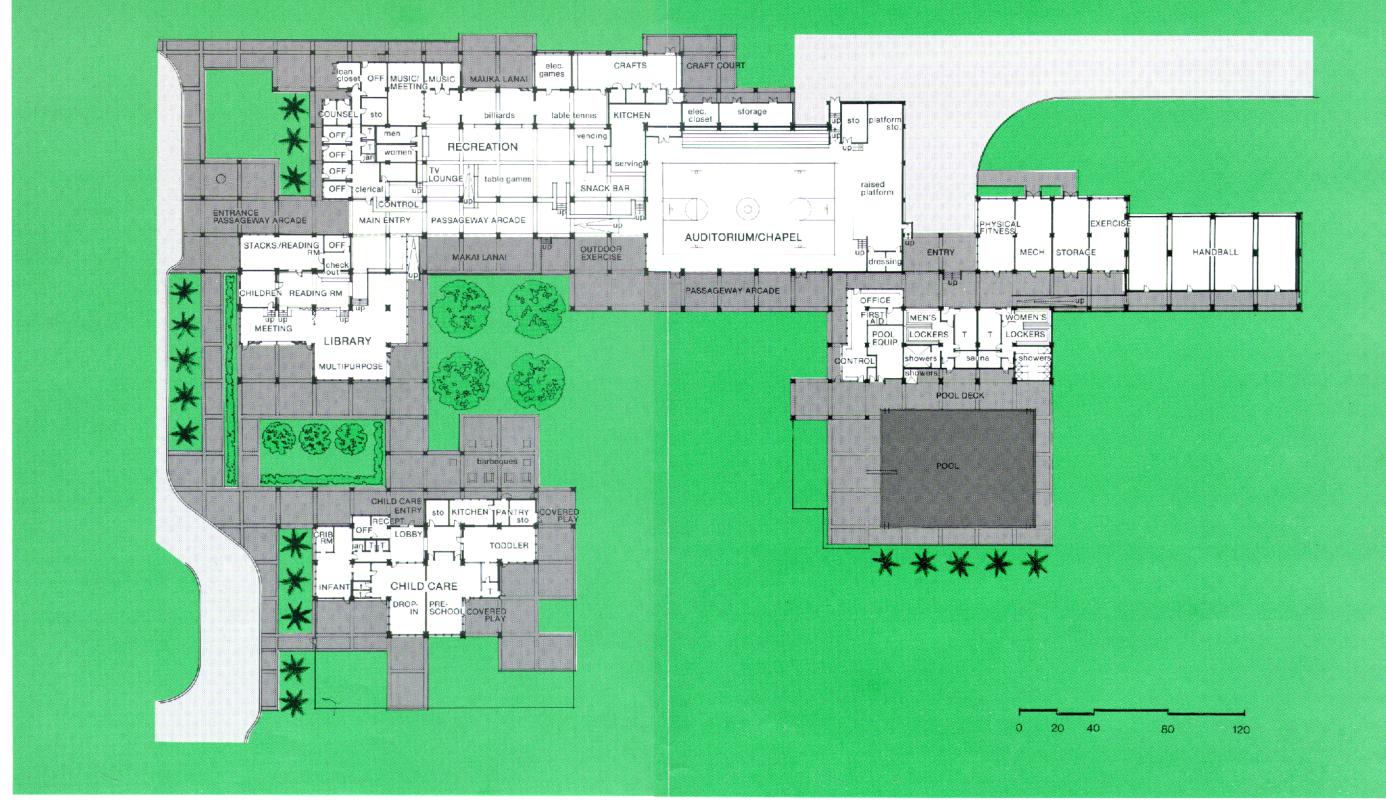


Figure 6-32 Fort Pacific: Local Family Center-Plan

desk, or by visiting specialist sports staff from the sports off ice/support pavilion. The multipurpose meeting spaces in the library pavilion can be used for library functions, general meetings, ACS conferences, recreation activities, clubs and other special events.

- Heavy timber construction is used throughout, with high "floating" roofs for maximum ventilation. Walls are light wood infill with movable rolling or swinging panels, for maximum openness.
- The high, distinctive roof on each pavilion makes it easier to distinguish buildings and functions. However, the similarity of building forms tend to unify the complex, despite the different elements (see figure 6 31).
- (3) Building Organization. The local family center is located on the limited available site, as close as possible to the steep bluff which rises behind it (see site plan, figure 6 30, and elevation, 6 33). This location offers the best bearing conditions. The foot of the bluff should also be a favorable location for natural ventilation. The playing fields are located in the lowest, flattest part of the site, below the buildings. The slope of the site also provides a grand overlook from the pavilions and the terrace to the surrounding hills.

The sports area consists of three pavilions at one end of the complex, the multipurpose gymnasium, the office/lockers/exercise building, and the handball/racquetball building. The lockers and support spaces are central, and serve the gym, racquetball courts, outdoor pool, tennis and sports fields, and a service court behind the gym which doubles as an outdoor basketball court. The gymnasium and other sports facilities can be operated for structured programs by visiting sports specialists from the sports office pavilion. The gymnasium can still function for more casual sports activities, as part of the recreation/multipurpose programming complex, under the supervision of support staff from the main control desk (see plan, figure 6 - 32).

The social activities/library/multipurpose gymnasium area also forms a complex of three pavilions. The social activities spaces (accommodating billiards, games, multipurpose programming, small crafts and music practice) overlook the table tennis area and the gymnasium, which in turn, overlook the outdoor terrace, sloping grassy amphitheatre, and playing fields. The gymnasium doubles as a performance hall (with seats stored under the stage) for music, theatre, movies, chapel and other events. The stage can be screened off for dance and ballet classes. The branch library is designed so the reading room can be supervised by the main CAC control desk when no librarian is present. The adjacent

meeting rooms can operate as open or closed spaces, which are divisible for smaller functions such as library meetings, classes, clubs, ACS counseling, or special functions.

The offices in the center are designed for multiple uses, because of the lack of other facilities in Fort Pacific. They accommodate the regular CAC administrative and program staff, and specialists visiting for specialized program operation. They also house the post commander, chaplain (until a future chapel is built adjacent to the center (see site plan, figure 6 - 30) and ACS staff. Separate outside access for the offices permits after-hours use.

Child care is found in a separate pavilion, distinct from the recreation and sports areas (see figure 6 - 32). It has convenient, separate vehicular access and drop-off, but is close enough along the sheltered pathways for parents using other functions. The child care center has separate spaces for infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers, as well as hourly care distinct from full day. Immediately adjacent to the pavilion are protected outdoor play areas for the different age groups.